

(c) As per information furnished by the State Government, they have sanctioned Rs. 21.43 crores in 1999-2000 and have provided Rs.26.00 crores in the budget for the promotion of tourism in the State of Gujarat.

(d) The Ministry of Tourism have sanctioned Rs. 327.64 lakhs in 1999- 2000 for projects prioritised for Gujarat in consultation with the State Government. Projects amounting to Rs. 873.00 lakhs have been prioritised in the year 2000-2001 for development of tourism in Gujarat.

Clearance to irrigation projects in Orissa

1848. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the proposal to approve all irrigation projects of Orissa and also to give more Central assistance for lift irrigation to increase the irrigation potentiality of Orissa State; and

(b) the total number of irrigation project proposals pending with Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Of the 20 irrigation projects received from Government of Orissa for clearance 10 projects have already been accepted by the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The clearance of the remaining projects is linked with the compliance of observations of the various central appraising agencies by the State Government. Ministry of Water Resources has been providing Central Loan Assistance (CLA) under Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP) since 1996-97 for completion of ongoing irrigation projects which are in advance stage of construction and the projects which are beyond the resource capability of the State Governments. However, proposals of such projects are required to be submitted by the concerned state government for inclusion under AIBP.

Rain Water Harvesting

1849. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to harvest rain water in the hilly areas so that lakes can be created; and

(b) if so, whether any progress has been made in any of the hilly area in any State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Rain water harvesting in hilly areas is being done through a number of techniques, one of which is the construction of check dams through which water is stored in small lakes.

The Central Ground Water Board is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water at a cost of Rs. 25.00 crores during Ninth Five Year Plan. Under this scheme, check dams are also being constructed in pilot projects under implementation in Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh.

Procurement of electronic geophysical bore hole logging

1850. SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some proposals for procurement of electronic geophysical bore hole logging EL-600 M-92 and Natural Gamma Ray log have been received from the State Government of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government will approve these proposals early for development of Himachal Pradesh;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) The Central Ground Water Board has not received such proposals from the State Government of Himachal Pradesh.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.